



## Access to Community Gardens on NYC Housing Authority Property

*Gardens on New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) property are closed to the public.*

*NYCHA gardens may only be accessed by garden members for the sole purpose of absolutely necessary maintenance and season preparation activities.*

Due to the relatively small spaces in most gardens and the difficulty in achieving safe social distancing of 6 feet or more, **gardens must remain closed to the general public.** Below are details and requirements to guide garden groups, which remain in effect until further notice:

- **Garden Access:** Access must be limited to garden members only, and only for garden maintenance and season preparation that is absolutely necessary (planting, weeding/cleaning, bed maintenance and harvesting).
- **Events and Gatherings:** All public events in community gardens on NYCHA property are prohibited until further notice. In addition, all in-person meetings, activities, and gatherings of garden groups are prohibited. Large projects that require many hands must be postponed.
- **Social Distancing:** Gardeners working in gardens must observe safe social distancing by maintaining a distance of 6 feet between all people at all times.
- **Face Coverings:** All gardeners must adhere to current NYC guidelines regarding face coverings while in public and/or working around other gardeners. For more information review the [NYC Face Covering FAQ<sup>1</sup>](#).
- **Staggering Access:** Garden groups must make best efforts to stagger access to gardens to minimize the number of members inside at the same time.
- **Clean and Disinfect Surfaces:** Gardeners should regularly clean and disinfect all shared tools and spaces. Cleaning and disinfection guidelines can be found on the [CDC website](#). Garden tools may become heavily soiled so they must be cleaned with soap and water or other detergent to remove visible soil, then use a disinfectant.
- **If You are Sick Stay at Home:** Do not attempt to work in a Community Garden when you are not feeling well. Individuals experiencing COVID-like symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat) or who tested positive for Covid-19 should not leave home except for essential medical care or for essential needs until all the following are true:
  - It has been at least 7 days since your symptoms started;
  - You never had a fever or you have not had a fever for the last 3 days without taking fever-reducing drugs such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen; and
  - Your overall illness has improved.
- **Review Current COVID-19 Information:** Gardeners should review current information and guidelines on COVID-19 released by the [CDC](#) and published on the [NYC COVID-19 Information Portal<sup>2</sup>](#), especially with regard to populations at risk.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/covid-19-face-covering-faq.pdf#\\_blank](https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/covid-19-face-covering-faq.pdf#_blank)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/index.page>